

# Lower Oahe Waterfowl Access Areas 2014-15 Waterfowl Report

For the Week of December 15, 2014

## MAIL SHACK CREEK AREA

This area continues to have good numbers of birds in the creek with some hunters doing well over the weekend on both ducks and geese. The trails going into the parking areas this past week and weekend were getting very muddy at times but with the cooler temperatures this has improved. Birds have continued to feed in and around a few of the walk-in fields in this area with some hunters setting out decoys and doing well.

## REGISTRATION AREA

Hunters using the decoy only registration fields have continued to harvest some birds with their results depending on where the birds are flying to feed at.

The list of fields closed to upland game remains the same as last week however with more hunters and geese using the fields there may be more added. Fields 61, 62, 69, 71, 75, 77 have been closed to upland game hunting. The remaining areas normally open to upland game hunting as shown in the 2014-2015 Lower Oahe maps continue to be open at this time. Upland game hunters are reminded they need to watch for waterfowl hunters or the signs designating them as open or closed to upland game hunting in the other areas.

To view the status of areas open or closed to hunting along with the types of crops in the fields at the bottom of the Lower Oahe page or by downloading the app to your smart phone.

## PASS-SHOOTING AREAS

There continues to be a flight coming out over some of the pass shooting areas with a few guys getting some birds in the canal area when the birds are flying out low enough to harvest. There were a few out trying the pass shooting this past week in the Spring Creek and Peoria Flats area, reports from them were of seeing very few birds coming out with most flying too high to shoot.

## SOLID AND STRIPED GREEN AREAS

There has been a good flight going west out to and around the striped green area in Stanley County. The warm temperatures the last couple of weeks made access into the area rather difficult but like the Mail Shack Area this has improved after the cooler temperatures moved in on Monday. The solid green area west of 1804 has been good for the guys setting out decoys in the fields with reports coming in of both geese and ducks being harvested on some days.

## SUMMARY

The numbers of birds in and around most of the areas are at good levels with the pass shooters in the Mail Shack Area doing well over the weekend. Birds continue to feed in and around a couple of the walk-in fields giving the guys wanting to set out some decoys an opportunity to harvest birds too. The decoy only registration fields have continued to have a consistent number of hunters each morning with success depending on the area the birds are coming from. There has been a good flight of birds out to the west in Stanley County making the striped green area good at times. Reports from the solid green colored areas west of 1804 are of hunters setting out decoys in the fields and doing well on both geese and ducks. Most of the areas north of Pierre did not get much for snow this week so access into the areas remains good.

**Hunters planning a trip over the holidays are reminded that the decoy-only registration trailer and fields will be closed on Christmas Day and will reopen the day after Christmas with drawings taking place one hour before sunrise.**

**Information about the 25<sup>th</sup> annual youth goose hunt coming up on January 16, 17, 18 2015 can be found at the bottom of this report.**



## 25th Annual Central South Dakota Youth Goose Hunt January 16-18

The Central South Dakota Youth Goose Hunt is a free waterfowl hunt held in Pierre, for youth hunters ages 12-15. There is an information meeting held on Friday, Jan 16. The hunt will take place Saturday and Sunday mornings.

How To Seminars by industry pro staffers, Saturday meals, and prizes for all youth hunters!

**When:** Jan. 16-18, 2015

- Jan 16- Informational meeting starting at 7 pm at the Pierre Ramkota
- Jan 17 - Day 1 hunt
- Jan 17 - Instructional Seminars starting at 7 pm at the Pierre Ramkota
- Jan 18 - Day 2 hunt

**Where:** Pierre, SD

**Who:** Boys and Girls between the ages of 12-15

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**Space is limited!**

The Ramkota is offering reduced room rates  
for youth hunters!